

Accomplishments 2004

Special Projects

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Table of Contents

ntroduction	ii
Accomplishments	1
Services for NOAA	1
Services for NOS	2
Services for Program and Staff Offices	6
Coast Survey	6
Ocean and Coastal Resource Management	6
National Marine Sanctuary Program	7
Office of Response and Restoration	9
National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science	10
Management and Budget	10
Services for Ecosystem Goal Team (EGT)	10
Services for NOAA Programs	11
CRMP	11
Coral	12
Habitat Restoration	14

Mission

The mission of Special Projects is to enhance the performance and capacity of NOAA's National Ocean Service and its partners through strategic problem solving, integration, and innovation, as well as to ensure more effective and efficient delivery of products and services to the coastal stewardship community. Special Projects conducts analyses and assessments for coastal areas and works to identify issues and solutions, assemble and synthesize data, evaluate and prioritize options, and develop products that support quality coastal resource management. Support services are provided by offering assistance in six business lines or areas of expertise.

Business Lines

Planning, Facilitation, and Process Design

Database and Web Application Development

Socioeconomic Analysis

Coastal Resource Analysis and Assessments

Mapping and Geographic Information Systems

Performance Measurement

Introduction

We are pleased to present this summary of Special Projects' major accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2004 (FY04). This has been a busy and productive year for the Special Projects team. We have worked with, and provided assistance to, the National Ocean Service's (NOS) Office of the Assistant Administrator, every NOS Program and Staff Office, and several NOAA-wide efforts, for a diverse set of projects. Among the products and services described in this summary are six Web sites, thirteen web-based applications, nine facilitated work sessions, thirteen conference presentations, and twenty-five reports and assessments.

One of the most exciting projects that Special Projects has been involved with in FY04 is helping NOS leadership develop the concept that NOS is striving to be a Global Leader in Integrated Management of the Ocean (GLIMO). GLIMO is a shorthand way to express this long-term goal which is central to all NOS activities. In FY05, Special Projects will continue to support the evolution of the GLIMO concept and work to extend it to the NOAA level.

Special Projects will continue to seek better ways to promote integration across NOS Program and Staff Offices and among the NOAA Mission Goal teams in FY05, and to assist its partners in creating innovative solutions to projects and requirements outside these units' regularly-planned activities. A new capability that will help our clients and others track all active Special Projects products and projects will be launched on the Special Projects Web site (specialprojects.nos.noaa.gov) in February 2005. This capability is an interactive, webenabled database tool that will allow any partner or interested reader to view the complete list of currently active projects, along with individual project profiles that include the client(s) name and organization, descriptions of the activity and product(s), and the level of Special Projects' resources committed to each effort. The reader will also be able to create simple graphs that show the proportion of Special Projects' resources devoted to each of its clients. We hope this new tool will provide a comprehensive picture of the role Special Projects is playing in advancing NOS's and NOAA's mission.

Dan Farrow Chief, Special Projects

Accomplishments

The following accomplishments are organized by client.

Services for NOAA

NOAA Restoration Day

Contact: Alison Hammer

Facilitation Facilitated and led the planning and development of a NOAA-wide partnership

effort for an annual NOAA Restoration Day event, a volunteer activity focused

on restoring the Chesapeake Bay, June 2004.

Web site Developed and currently maintain a Web site to help coordinate and raise

awareness about NOAA Restoration Day. Site address:

http://restorationday.noaa.gov.

U.S. Marine Managed Areas Inventory

Contact: Lani Watson

Report Authored the MMA Inventory Status Report. This report informs the MMA

Inventory State contacts on the background, status, and activity of the U.S.

MMA Inventory.

Presentation Presented the MMA Inventory Status Report at the Coastal Managers Meeting in

March, 2004, to update Federal and State program managers on the progress

and activities of the MMA Inventory.

MPA Management Effectiveness Initiative

Contact: Lani Watson

Book Completed final copy reviews and edits for the MPA Management Effectiveness Guidebook (in partnership with the International Programs Office). This book

was published in May 2004.

NOAA IT Security

Contact: David Gietka

ASP.NET Web Developed Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) (web-based)

Application authentication application to maintain NOAA IT security.

Web Hosting

Contact: Lawrence Charters

Web Hosting Provided web hosting for a total of 205 sites (of which 106 are public sites).

Provided domain registration (with General Services Administration) for the following websites: ceq.gov, ocean.gov, oceans.gov, estuaries.gov, mpa.gov,

oceancommission.gov.

Presentation Authored a draft of the Communication and Education Division's presentation

on web techniques for the NOAA Webshop 2004.

Performance Measures

Contact: Dan Farrow

Leadership Role Served as co-chair of the NOAA Performance Measures Working Group to

develop a more integrated approach to performance management for the

organization.

SQL Server Developed a searchable performance measures database (with filtering and

Database sorting capabilities) for all NOAA line office performance measures.

Services for NOS

Spatial Trends in Coastal Socioeconomics

Contact: Percy Pacheco

GIS Application Developed an ArcIMS application that allows the user to view Census 2000 data and select data for download. This application is in the final beta form and can be accessed via the Spatial Trends in Coastal Socioeconomics (STICS) Web site.

Site address: http://stics.noaa.gov.

SAS Application Developed a tool to allow users to browse, sort, query, choose the extent of the Census 2000 and Bureau of Economic Analysis data they want to download, and create a dataset for download.

> Managed the development and implementation of the profile, custom graphic, and statistical test tool.

Report Authored the report, Population Trends Along the Coastal United States: 1980-2008. This report examines population trends and projections in coastal counties from 1980-2008. The report is being printed through GPO, creating 3000 hardcopies for distribution. Additionally, the report will be available for download from the STICS Web site.

Co-authored with the SAS Institute a scope of work and contract to develop a "Profile, Custom Graphic, and Statistical Test" tool for the STICS Web site.

Presentation

Presented the STICS Web site at NOAA's Coastal Services Center. The Web site was tested by a group of socioeconomic users who evaluated the STICS tools, and then provided comments and recommendations.

Presented the STICS Web site and the report, Population Trends Along the Coastal United States: 1980-2008, at the Association of American Geographers (AAG) Centennial Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, March 2004.

Presented the STICS Web site and the report, Population Trends Along the Coastal United States: 1980-2008, at the Program Managers Meeting in Washington, DC, March 2004.

Presented the STICS Web site to the U.S. Census Bureau, and new partnership opportunities with the U.S. Census Bureau were discussed following the presentation.

Poster

Created the poster, The Crowded Coast, Population Trends: 1970-2000. The purpose of this poster is to provide updated population data and trends and to help provide insight as to where the greatest population change has occurred between 1970 and 2000.

Metadata

Generated metadata records for the time series georeferenced data from the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Economic Analysis, which will be available through the STICS Web site.

Enterprise GIS

Contact: Nipa Parikh

GIS Application

Web site and Launched the NOS Data Explorer portal Web site (in partnership with the Coastal Services Center) in July 2004. Development of this Web site and GIS application, which allow users to search for NOS spatial data using metadata records and/or interactive maps, is ongoing. Site address: http://www.nos.noaa.gov/dataexplorer/welcome.html.

Global Leader in Integrated Management of the Ocean (GLIMO)

Contact: Brent Ache

Facilitation

Led the NOS Senior Management Council in a series of discussions to develop a regional pilot study (Gulf of Mexico) to demonstrate the benefits of integrated coastal and ocean management.

Report Compiled and edited a report for the NOS Assistant Administrator entitled, GLIMO: Staff Response to the New NOS Vision. This report analyzed and summarized staff responses to the new GLIMO vision and was presented at the December 2003 NOS All Hands Meeting.

Developed background paper and summary report for the NOS Constituent Roundtable VII, Towards a Sustainable Ocean Policy, which focused discussion on GLIMO principles.

Presentation

Prepared presentations for Richard Spinrad, NOS Assistant Administrator, to brief VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher Jr., USN, and Program Planning and Integration Director, Mary Glackin, on the GLIMO concept.

ASP.NET Web

Developed online GLIMO survey input form to allow users to input comments Application regarding the GLIMO concept over the Internet.

GIS Development and Services

Contact: Robb Wright

GIS Application Enhanced ArcIMS serving and hosting capabilities. Fifteen

Biogeography ArcIMS sites and one CO-OPs site were added to Special Projects'

ArclMS hosting.

Facilitation Facilitated and led a training workshop for GIS Day at Sligo Middle School,

Silver Spring, MD, November 2004.

Presentation Presented GIS fundamentals and applications (weather and tornado tracking) to middle school students at Sligo Middle School, Silver Spring, MD, November 2004.

Created a series of posters with the Information Management Division representing GIS activities within NOAA line offices. This poster was part of the NOAA GIS booth at the ESRI Federal Users Conference in January 2004.

Metadata Assisted in NOAA's effort to update and populate the Atmosphere & Climate and the Oceans & Estuaries channels on the geodata.gov portal, in support of the Geospatial One-Stop Initiative. Assisted offices across NOAA to generate metadata for Interactive Mapping Sites that NOAA would like to feature within these channels. Created XML pages that display the metadata summaries when users access the specific channel from the geodata.gov portal. The objective of the geodata.gov portal is to establish a one-stop Internet portal that provides users with quick access to geospatial data resources managed by all levels of government within the U.S.

National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) 2000

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Contributed to a chapter on marine recreation in the book, Outdoor Recreation for the 21st Century America: A Report to the Nation. This book was developed in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and published by Venture Publishing, Inc. Data for the marine recreation component was from NSRE 2000.

Received NSRE 2005 questionnaire and sample design approval from OMB, Interagency Agreements, and NOS funding. Submitted questionnaire and sample design to OMB for approval under Paperwork Reduction Act and received approval for an additional three years of research. Also received funding from FY04 funds from CSC (\$250k), MPA Center (\$50k) and SP (\$25k) and entered into an Interagency Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service. The NSRE 2005 survey will run for three years, starting January 2005.

Southern California Beach Valuation Project

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Report Provided final peer review for the report, Using Revealed Preference Models to Estimate the Effect of Water Quality on Beach Choice in Southern California. This report discusses models to be used for estimating the value of beaches in the Southern California counties of Los Angeles and Orange.

Services for Program and Staff Offices

Coast Survey

Gulf of Honduras: Enhancing Navigational Safety

Contact: Percy Pacheco

Facilitation Co-facilitated the workshop, VI Workshop of the MesoAmerican-Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission (MACHC)-Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, for the Electronic Chart Working Group to discuss key hydrographic objectives of the Gulf of Honduras Project, August 2004.

Coast Survey Senior Management Retreat

Contact: Tom Culliton

Facilitation

Facilitated a two-day retreat for OCS leaders to meet the following objectives: review and discuss OCS requirements drivers; identify and prioritize OCS desired goals for FY07-FY11; characterize the 100 percent requirement; identify current capacities and gaps for OCS goals; discuss activities "to be put to bed"; prioritize products and services; and validate collaborations with partners. This retreat was held in June 2004.

Ocean and Coastal Resource Management

Delaware Brownfields

Contact: Brent Ache

Provided assistance to Delaware Coastal Management Program in planning and designing a long-term effort focused on restoration of brownfields in South Wilmington and facilitated initial planning workshop.

Delaware Coastal Management Program Retreat

Contact: Tim Goodspeed

Facilitation Facilitated annual retreat for the Delaware Coastal Management Program to meet the following the objectives: identify projects to focus on over the next three years, increase understanding of each other, and increase understanding of relationships within the division and department. The retreat was held in June 2004.

Regional Social Science Research Strategies for Marine Protected Areas

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Assisted in the development of a regional research plan addressing social science research strategies for the U.S. Territorial Islands in the Pacific. Contributed to a literature review to support a gap analysis. Reviewed workshop results for the final report.

National Marine Sanctuary Program

Socioeconomic Monitoring of Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS)

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Report Developed a detailed statement of work for a study on nonconsumptive recreation in the CINMS. This study will establish baseline usage, including spatial usage by activity type and economic value of sanctuary resources for consumptive recreation.

> Authored the position description for the new Social Science Coordinator for the Socioeconomic Monitoring Program.

Completed the socioeconomic section of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Regulatory Impact Review, and Regulatory Flexibility Analysis for the revised CINMS management plan regulations.

Authored a section of the Draft EIS with proposed methods and data to be used in analyzing future alternatives for review by the Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (in support of CINMS receiving approval for the Federal portions of the marine reserves).

Presentation

Presented the component of the Draft EIS authored by Special Projects economists to the SSC, July 2004.

Socioeconomic Monitoring of Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Report Authored the Socio-economic Baseline Development Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary: 1998–2002. This report contains the first five years of data on catch and financial performance of commercial fishing panels.

Authored the report, The Importance and Satisfaction Ratings Five Year Comparison, SPA and ER Use, and Socioeconomic and Ecological Monitorina Comparisons of Results 1995-96 to 2000-2001. This report contains five-year comparisons of importance/satisfaction ratings for twenty-five natural resource attributes, facilities, and services for both resident and visitor populations.

Authored the report, Geospatial Information System (GIS) Analysis of Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Fishing Panels. This report contains the first four years of data on spatial distribution of catch from the commercial fishing panels.

Authored the report, Summary Econometric Models and Economic Valuation of Alternative Recreational Bag Limits for Spiny Lobster: Final Report. This report summarizes the economic analysis of survey data on recreational spiny lobsters for alternative bag limits from years 1992 and 2001. The survey is a partnership between NOAA, the Florida Marine Research Institute, and The Nature Conservancy.

Authored the report, Method for Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to Charge Fair Market Value for Use of Sanctuary Resources Under Permit.

Co-authored the paper, Long-term Trends in Recreational Lobster Fishery of Florida, United States: Landings, Effort and Management Implications. The paper is to be published in 2005 in the New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research (2005).

Presentation

Presented the paper, Long-term Trends in Recreational Lobster Fishery of Florida, United States: Landings, Effort and Management Implications, at the International Lobster Conference in Tasmania, February 2004.

Presented results of dive ship log book data to test the hypothesis that the introduction of an artificial reef in a natural reef environment would reduce usage on surrounding natural reefs. Presentation was given to FKNMS Artificial Reef Committee in Marathon, FL, February 2004.

Online Sanctuary Permitting, Reporting, and Evaluation System (OSPREY)

Contact: Nipa Parikh

Application

ASP.NET Web Migrated the OSPREY permit tracking application from a FileMaker database to SQL Server with custom code written in asp.net. Site address:

http://www8.nos.noaa.gov/nmspermit.

Resource and Undersea Threats Database (RUST)

Contact: Tony Reyer

SQL Server Developed a national database containing information about shipwrecks, pipelines, wellheads, dump sites, etc. whose contents, if released, could pose an environmental and/or socioeconomic threat to the surrounding area and/or

coastline.

ASP.NET Web Application Developed secure on-line data entry forms and query capabilities for the RUST database.

Office and Response and Restoration

Portfields

Contact: Brent Ache

Web site Developed a public Web site in support of the Coastal Brownfields restoration initiative, specifically focusing on Portfields. The site objective is to describe and raise awareness about NOAA's involvement in brownfields and to provide detailed information about specific activities that are currently underway within NOAA, including efforts focusing on portfields and the three pilot ports (New Bedford, MA, Tampa, FL, and Bellingham, WA). Site address: http://brownfields.noaa.gov.

Released annual project report, Portfields: A Coordinated Approach to Revitalizing Ports, to the public at the 2004 Brownfields Conference, September 2004.

Created the poster, NOAA Portfields Web sites: Using Technology to Coordinate Portfields Restoration. Presented the poster at the 2nd National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration, September 2004.

National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science

National Status and Trends (NS&T) Data Portal

Contact: Percy Pacheco

SAS Application Co-authored the scope of work and contract with the SAS Institute to develop an

Indicator Analysis Tool for the Bioeffect Assessment project to be offered on the

Internet.

Web site Led the development of the official NS&T Web site which became public in

September, 2004. The Web site currently provides access to project

descriptions, assessment reports, and to a "data query/download" tool. Other

tools are currently being developed.

GIS Application Provided technical GIS support for the NS&T Data Portal.

Metadata Assisted staff from NCCOS in updating existing documentation and generating

FGDC metadata for all NS&T data sets currently available through the NCCOS

Web site.

Management and Budget

NOS FY05 Obligations Summit Planning/Reporting

Contact: Peter Wiley

Facilitation Facilitated a workshop to explore ways to improve the NOS obligation process,

August 2004.

Report Produced the report, NOS FY05 Execution Planning/Reporting and Obligations

Summit: Synopsis. This report summarized findings and recommendations from

the Obligations Summit.

Services for Ecosystem Goal Team

NOAA's Regional Ecosystem Delineation

Contact: Percy Pacheco

Paper Authored the paper, NOAA's Regional Ecosystem Delineation. This paper

identifies and recommends the best option for regional ecosystem inland

boundaries. This recommendation was accepted at the Delineation of Regional

Ecosystems Workshop in Charleston, SC, August 2004.

Presentation Presented options and recommendations for inland boundaries to the

participants of the NOAA Workshop on Delineation of Regional Ecosystems,

Charleston, SC, August 2004.

NOAA's Social Science Initiative

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Report Authored a section of the Ecosystem Goal Team Briefing Book, based on

NOAA Research Council's recommendations.

Presentation Presented concepts of how social science could help NOAA achieve its mission

goals. This presentation was given to NOAA's Ecosystem Goal Team (EGT).

Services for NOAA Programs

Coastal and Marine Resources Program

Programming Planning, Budgeting, and Execution System (PPBES)

Contact: Peter Wiley

Facilitation

Provided process facilitation and technical assistance to the Coastal and Marine Resources Program, in support of the FY07-FY11 PPBES process. This support took the form of process planning, layout and publications production, and database and budget processing. Additionally, supported the EGT by providing facilitation and process planning assistance to the EGT communications team and the EGT NOS team, which significantly contributed to creating a process for NOAA-wide ecosystem-based coastal and marine resource management.

Coral

Support for NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program

Contact: Steve Rohmann

Drafted an introductory chapter and created maps of U.S. jurisdictions, benthic habitats, monitoring locations, and storm tracks for the State of U.S. Coral Reefs Report. This report is being developed by the Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment.

Provided an editorial review of the introduction section of NOAA's 2004 Coral Report to Congress. Also reviewed the Socioeconomic and Tourism & Recreation sections of the report for the state of Florida.

Paper Authored and submitted the manuscript, New Estimates of Potential Coral Ecosystem Area in U.S. Tropical and Sub-tropical Waters, to the journal, Coral Reefs. The article presents new estimates of the potential extent of coral ecosystems in the U.S. Estimates were derived using ten fathom and 100 fathom depth curves on nautical charts. The manuscript is in review and awaiting acceptance.

Authored the paper, Summit-to-Sea Mapping and Change Detection Using Satellite Imagery: Tools for Conservation, Management of Coral Reefs, February 2004. This paper describes the techniques used for estimating depth, mapping benthic habitats and creating products merged with elevation and land cover for seamless, summit-to-sea products and methodologies for change detection. Abstract published in Abstract Book ALSO/TOS Ocean Research 2004 Conference, available from:

http://www.aslo.org/meetings/honolulu2004/files/aslo-tos-2004-abstracts.pdf.

Authored the paper, Using Landsat and IKONOS Imagery to Create Habitat Classifications and Mosaic Maps of Pacific Freely Associated States. This paper was published in the proceedings from the 30th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment, Information for Risk Management and Sustainable Development, Honolulu, HI, November 2004.

Presentation

Presented the paper, Summit to Sea Mapping and Change Detection Using Satellite Imagery: Tools for Conservation and Management of Coral Reefs, at the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography conference in Honolulu, HI, February 2004. The presentation consisted of results from a project that produced estimated depth and land use change analysis for St Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. Data products were derived from Landsat imagery.

Presented partnership opportunities in Kingston, Jamaica for a Landsat-based benthic habitat mapping project using Landsat imagery to exchange data and lay groundwork for creating a nation-wide benthic habitat map of Jamaica, April 2004.

Presented several methodologies for change detection in benthic habitats, and how these methodologies can be used to monitor effects of land-based sources of pollution at the Local Action Strategy Workshop in San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 2004.

Presented results of a first ever analysis to produce estimated depth data from Landsat imagery for Palau (using Landsat and IKONOS imagery to create habitat classifications and Mosaic Maps of Pacific Freely Associated States) at the International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment Conference, Honolulu, HI, November 2004.

Supported NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program FY05 Spending Plan, by participating in two working groups, Overfishing and Coastal Uses, to develop recommended research activities for the Coral Program Senior Management Council. Reviewed 76 proposals and helped each working group arrive at consensus packages of proposals that were within budget guidance.

Metadata

Assisted staff from NOAA's Coral Reef Information System (CoRIS) with the task of listing individual Environmental Sensitivity Index maps for the Caribbean and Pacific through CoRIS. Identified the bounding coordinates of individual maps and created three of the template records that were used in generating individual metadata records. Metadata for 186 maps were created.

CD-ROM

Compiled data for and created the CD-ROM, Satellite Imagery of the Freely Associated State: Mosaics and Digital Data. This CD contains digital Landsat imagery of the Freely Associated States and mosaics of the regions that show an accurate depiction of how the shallow water areas relate to one another.

Procurement

Purchased Palau imagery using available contract vehicles. The purchase included approximately 1,600 sq km of high-resolution satellite imagery of Palau to support development of the first ever benthic habitat maps of this area.

NOAA Coral Reef Inventory

Contact: Alison Hammer

Database

SQL Server Developed a web-enabled, relational database as a tool to increase the sharing of information and effectiveness of managing the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program that began in 2001. The database is restricted to NOAA coral project managers to help plan and track project funding and accomplishments by fiscal year. The database was migrated from Oracle/WebDB to SQL Server using ASP.NET. Site address: http://www2.nos.noaa.gov/coralprojects.

NOAA Coral Reef Ecosystem Plan

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Research Provided an editorial review of the NOAA Coral Ecosystem Research Plan Part I: National Priorities (for FY05 - FY10). Worked with the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to compile and incorporate the Socioeconomic Research Needs component of this Plan.

Hawaii Coral Reef National Valuation Study

Contact: Bob Leeworthy

Research Conducted several focus groups and one-on-one interviews to assist in developing a draft questionnaire for estimating economic value of Hawaii's coral reefs for a large scale pre-test. Questionnaire information was peer reviewed by a panel of physical and social scientists. The current questionnaire version will be submitted for approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Habitat Restoration

NOAA Restoration

Contact: Alison Hammer

Web site & ASP.NET Web Application

Provided centralized access to information about NOAA restoration programs, projects, and activities through a single point-of-entry. This Web site serves as a gateway to more detailed NOAA restoration publications, Web sites, audiovisual materials, and case studies. It utilizes new technology to access the NOAA Library Catalog database to dynamically list and link to a variety of NOAA restoration resources. This effort was led by Special Projects in partnership with the NOAA Central Library, NOS Office of Response and Restoration, and the NOAA Restoration Center. Site address: http://restoration.noaa.gov.

Poster Created the poster, NOAA Restoration Portal Web site: Technological Solution for Sharing Restoration Resources. This poster was presented at 2nd National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration, September 2004.

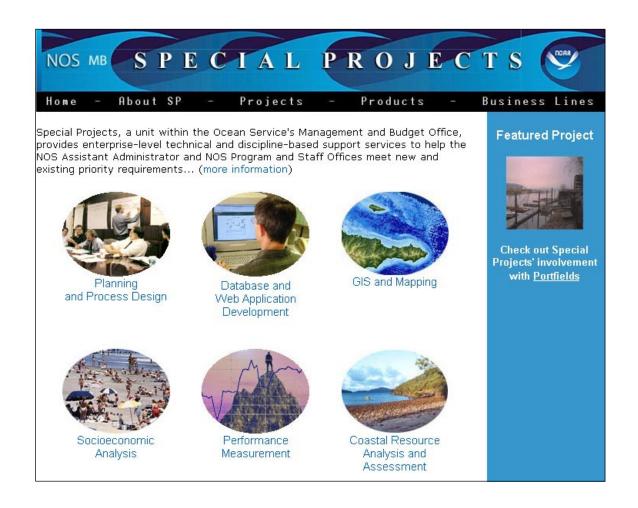
NOAA and Estuary Restoration Act Support

Contact: Alison Hammer

Server Database

Web site & SQL Assessed and summarized a variety of coastal and estuarine habitat restoration plans within a plan database as part of the NOAA & ERA effort. Standard information was collected about each plan including: plan descriptions, goals, and partnerships. The database has both a restricted, data entry interface and a public query capability. Determined the system requirements, designed and created the database and interfaces, and fully implemented the on-line system. Also migrated the database from Oracle/WebDB to SQL Server. The public query interface is available at:

http://era.noaa.gov/htmls/rpi query/rpi query.html.



http://specialprojects.nos.noaa.gov

